

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 190076
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 OC-06 CCO-00
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DRAFTED BY AF/S:JNACH:MDR
APPROVED BY AF:WCHARROP/IO:BGHELMAN
AF/EX:JMBRYANT
IO/EX:DCELLER
M:MR READ
IO/UNA:AFHOLLOWAY(INFO)
L/UNA:SRBOND
AF/S:HKAISER
OC/SA:HKAKLIKIAN (INFO)
M/DGP:AMB. BARNES

-----109086 272258Z /70

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 190076

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, PDEV, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: ESTABLISHMENT OF A US LIAISON OFFICE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 190076

IN WINDHOEK DURING TRANSITION

REF: PRETORIA, 4260, USUN 3018

1. ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE WESTERN FIVE'S SETTLEMENT
PROPOSAL WILL SHORTLY BE ADOPTED AND IMPLEMENTED BY THE UN,
DEPARTMENT HAS DECIDED IN PRINCIPLE THAT AN OFFICIAL US

PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED FROM THE OUTSET OF THE TRANSITION PROCESS. THE PURPOSE OF SUCH A PRESENCE WOULD BE TO PROVIDE ON-THE-SPOT LIAISON WITH THE UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND HIS SUBORDINATES AND SUBSTANTIVE REPORTS ON THE TRANSITION PROCESS AS IT UNFOLDS.

2. WE HAVE IN MIND A SMALL LIAISON OFFICE IN WINDHOEK STAFFED BY TDY PERSONNEL FOR THE DURATION OF THE TRANSITION. IN OUR PRELIMINARY PLANNING, WE ENVISION SENDING AN FSO-2 OR 3 TO HEAD THE OFFICE AND A SECOND SUBSTANTIVE OFFICER TO SERVE AS DEPUTY. AT LEAST TWO COMMUNICATORS AND A SECRETARY WOULD ALSO BE REQUIRED.

WE WILL BE MAKING INQUIRIES WITH THE UN SECRETARIAT CONCERNING ACCREDITATION OF THE OFFICE, THE ISSUANCE OF VISAS, AND OTHER ASSOCIATED PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCE OF PLANNING FOR THE PLACEMENT OF A DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN AN INTERNATIONAL TERRITORY UNDER ILLEGAL OCCUPATION BY A FOREIGN POWER. IN ADDITION, WE INTEND TO QUERY THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CONTACT GROUP ON THEIR PLANS AND VIEWS.

3. GIVEN THE PRACTICAL REALITIES OF THE SITUATION, WE BELIEVE THAT THE PROPOSED LIAISON OFFICE WILL HAVE TO RELY HEAVILY ON THE US MISSION IN SOUTH AFRICA FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT THE SAG WILL, EXCEPT

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 190076

AS THE UN'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE HAS SPECIFIC POWERS, BE THE DE FACTO ADMINISTRATIVE POWER IN NAMIBIA DURING THE TRANSITION AND THAT IN PRACTICAL TERMS IT WILL PROBABLY BE NECESSARY TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH THEM ON A WIDE RANGE OF MATTERS.

4. FOR USUN: YOU SHOULD BRIEF CONTACT GROUP ON FOREGOING.

5. FOR PRETORIA: WE WOULD WELCOME YOUR IDEAS ON BOTH THE CONCEPT OF ESTABLISHING A LIAISON OFFICE IN WINDHOEK AND THE POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATIONS WHICH WE WILL HAVE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT. WITH REGARD TO ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS, WE HAVE PREPARED A CHECKLIST OF ITEMS (SEE PARA 7) FOR COMMENT BY THE EMBASSY.

6. ASSUMING NO OBSTACLES ARISE IN THE NEAR FUTURE, WE WILL HAVE TO MOVE SWIFTLY. WE NOTE FROM CAPE TOWN 1316 THAT SPACE IN ALL MAJOR WINDHOEK OFFICE BUILDINGS IS ALREADY RENTED AND FROM PRETORIA 4260 THAT HOTEL SPACE FOR POTENTIAL OFFICE/RESIDENTIAL USE IS LIMITED. WE WOULD THEREFORE RECOMMEND, SUBJECT TO YOUR CONCURRENCE, THAT ONE OR TWO EMBASSY OFFICERS TRAVEL TO WINDHOEK ASAP TO LOOK INTO

THESE AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE OPENING OF A LIAISON OFFICE IN NAMIBIA. THEY MIGHT WANT TO ARRIVE AT THE SAME TIME OR BEFORE THE UN SURVEY TEAM (SEE USUN 3018).

7. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS TO BE LOOKED INTO INCLUDE:

A. OFFICE SPACE, EITHER IN A COMMERCIAL BUILDING OR A HOTEL, WHICHEVER IS MORE FEASIBLE;

B. HOUSING, SUITABLE FOR UP TO TWO OFFICERS, ONE SECRETARY, AND TWO COMMUNICATORS, ALL OF WHOM WOULD BE ON TDY;

C. AVAILABILITY OF RENTAL VEHICLES;
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 STATE 190076

D. POSSIBLE NEED FOR SUBMISSION OF HOTEL/RESTAURANT PORTION OF RETAIL PRICE SURVEY IF CURRENT PER DIEM RATES ARE DEEMED INAPPROPRIATE;

E. SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS.

8. TRAVEL OF THE ONE OR TWO OFFICERS SHOULD BE CHARGED TO FOLLOWING FISCAL DATA: 1980113-8A1021-800442-6699-2152. POST SHOULD CUT ORDERS AUTHORIZING 5-7 DAYS TDY IN WINDHOEK. PLEASE POUCH COPY OF ORDERS TO AF/EX/PMO.

9. WITH REGARD TO COMMUNICATIONS, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE DEPARTMENT ON COST AND AVAILABILITY OF A 75-BAUD, FULL-PERIOD, FULL-DUPLEX CIRCUIT BETWEEN PRETORIA AND WINDHOEK. WE PREFER A NON-ARQ CIRCUIT. PRESENT THINKING IS TO INSTALL IT INTO EXISTING AVD SYSTEM ON ATS/WINDHOEK CIRCUIT. ACTIVATION DATE IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME.

10. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF ITS CAPABILITY TO PROVIDE BASIC OFFICE SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT TO THE LIAISON OFFICE.

11. PLEASE CABLE FULL REPORT ON ABOVE ITEMS ASAP.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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